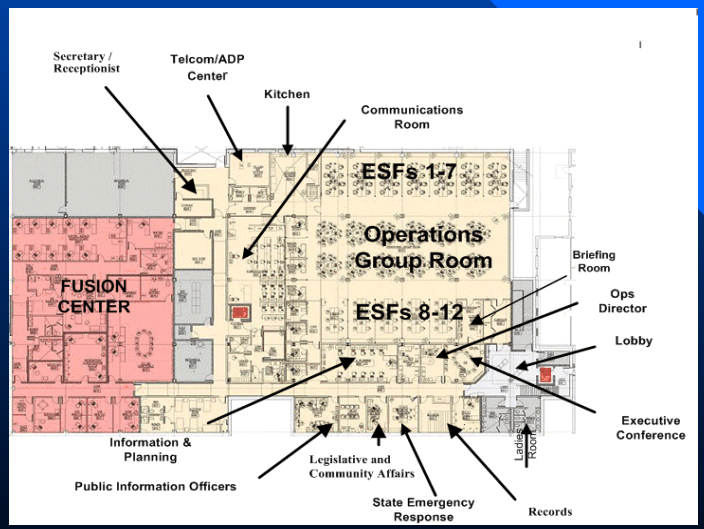
Building an Emergency Operations Center

Virginia Emergency Management Conference 2006

Processes

- Preparing to Design
- Designing
- Funding
- Project Management
- User Involvement
- Murphy’s Law and Flexibility

Preparing to Design



Designing and Funding

- What are you doing now?
- What else do you want to do that is needed?
- What are your facility constraints?
- What new technology will you use?
- Flexibility

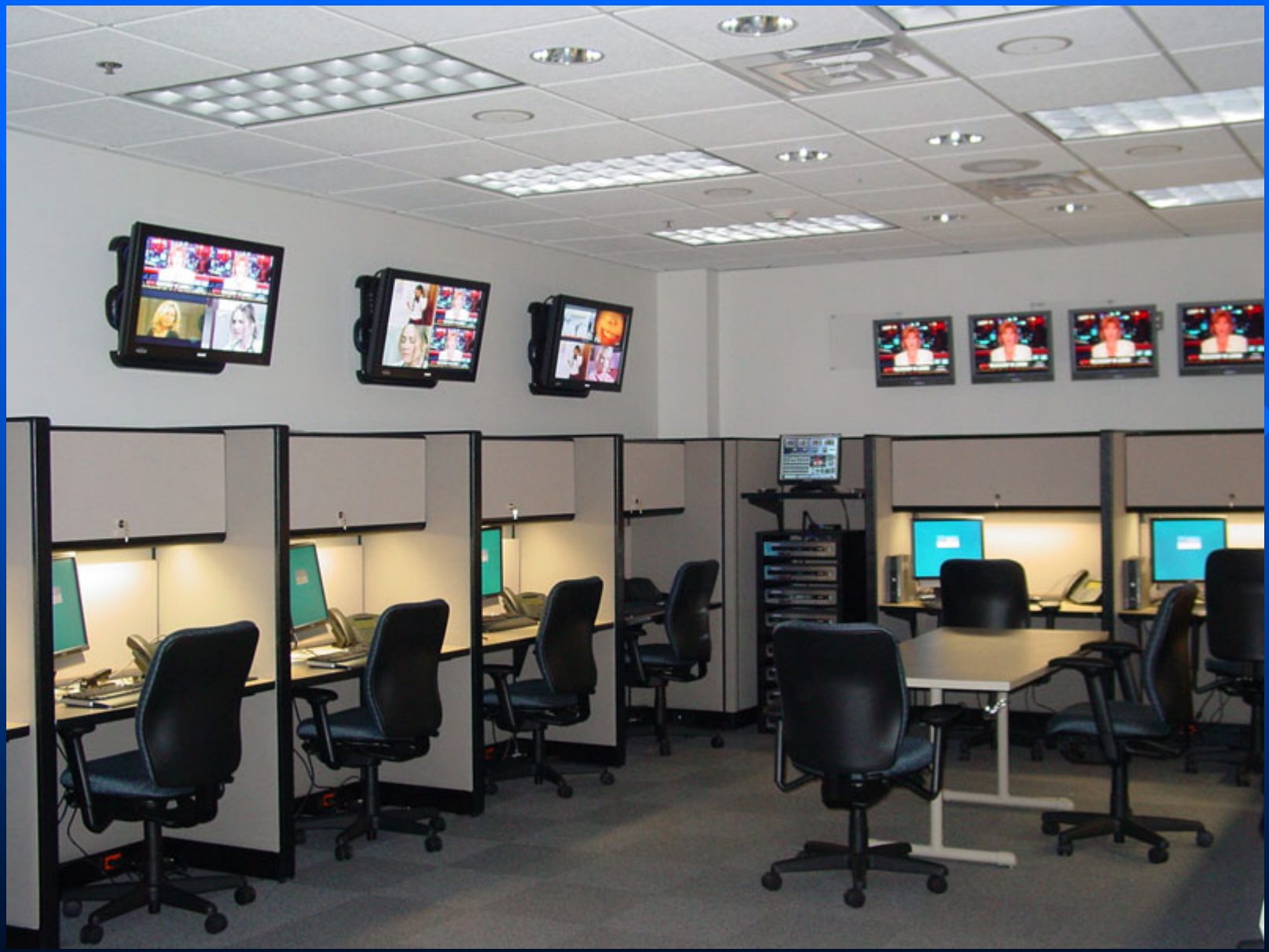
- Federal, State, Local, private sources for resources
  - Federal grants
  - Legislature
  - Local commitment
  - Private partners

Project Management

- Dedicated project manager desired
- Standards should be met
- The Information Technology Zone
- Frequent reviews and mid-course corrections

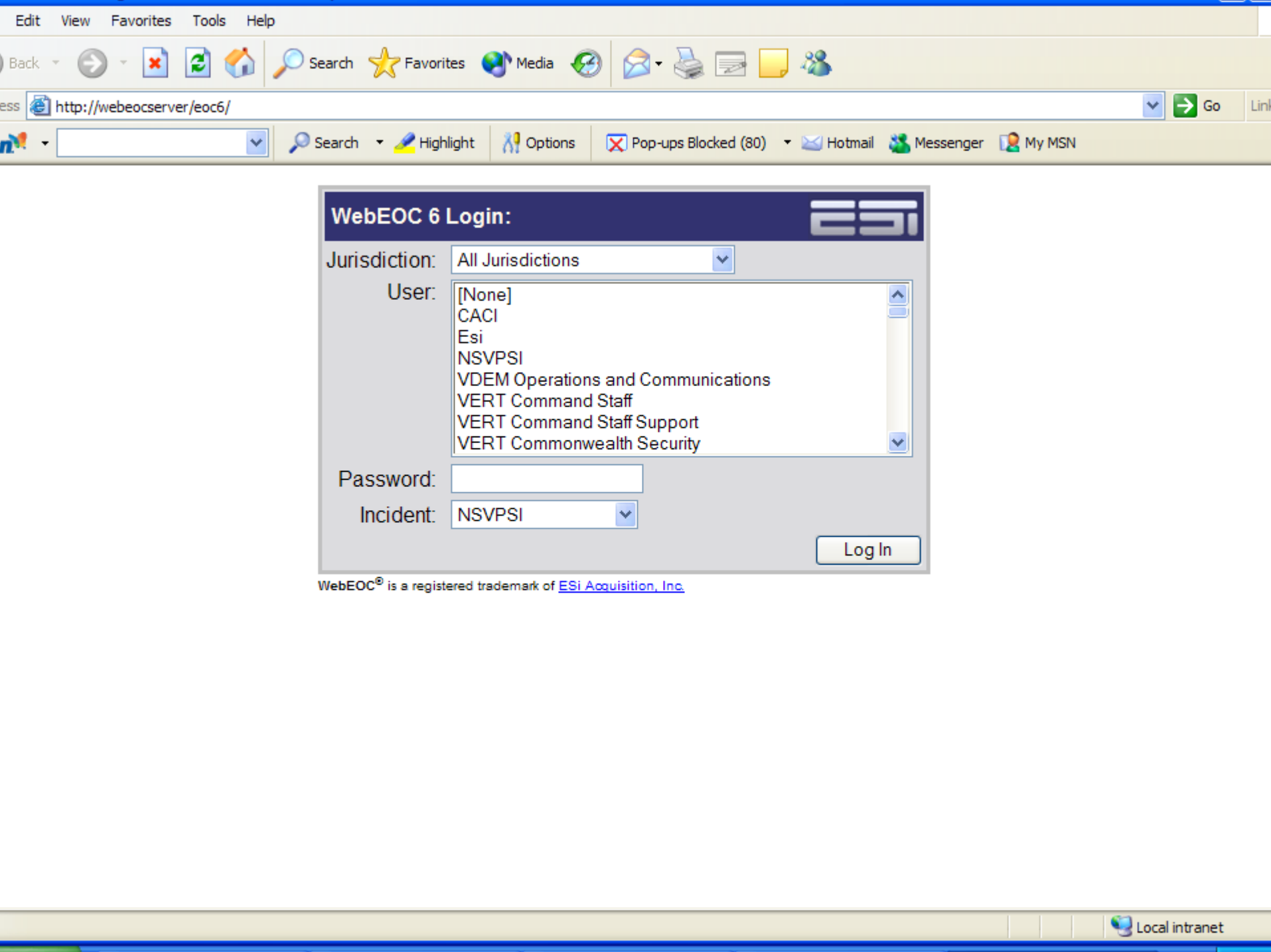
User Involvement

- Create the vision
- Stakeholder input before, during, and after construction
- Getting buy-in while exercising



New Technology

- Entry Badging System
- Communications
  - VOIP
  - STARS
  - Conference Call Upgrade
  - Alerting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Murphy's Law and Flexibility

- If things can go wrong, they will
  - Projects take longer than planned
  - Projects cost more than planned
- Be flexible and agile in planning for contingencies-funding, timing, frustration, and uncertainty

Questions?

Harry E. Colestock, III

(804)674-2400

Harry.colestock@vdem.virginia.gov